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REVIEWS AND NEW BOOKS

General Works, Theory and Its History

NEW BOOKS

BOGARDUS, E. S. *Introduction to sociology*. (Los Angeles: Univ. Southern California Press. 1917. Pp. 343. \$1.50.)

ELLIOT, H. *Herbert Spencer*. Makers of the nineteenth century, edited by Basil Williams. (London: Constable. 1917. Pp. vi, 330. 6s.)

ELLWOOD, C. A. *An introduction to social psychology*. (New York: Appleton. 1917. Pp. xii, 343. \$2.)

This is a restatement as a textbook of the author's *Sociology in its Psychological Aspects*. The author has succeeded in outlining the leading phases of his subject and has arranged his discussion helpfully in its sequence, subdivisions, and references. The repetition sometimes seems monotonous but is probably needed in such a text. There is a catholicity about the author's thinking that will be a wholesome corrective for one-sidedness in teacher or students; there is not only a willingness to see strength as well as weakness in divergent opinions but also a desire to gain the strength of each in some inclusive conception. The style is easy, so easy, in fact, that the student may be lulled into agreement rather than aroused to argument, and may respond to the pleasant flow of ideas by drifting with the current.

The real limitation of the book for teaching purposes is its abstractness. The author probably realizes his desire to "avoid, as far as possible, an overspecialized scientific terminology"; but his illustrations are so few and so brief that the discussion is almost like a succession of conclusions about unknown facts, as far as the student is concerned. Certainly the richness of the author's observation and reading has supplied him with actual social situations to interpret and vitalize his conclusions. Then, why not give the student at least some concrete base on which to stand? If the teacher of the parallel reading can supply sufficient illustrative material, the present text can well serve to guide and strengthen the course; but, if not, the text may evoke confidence in the student without understanding.

The first chapter is devoted to definitions and methods and the second and third chapters to the organic background and the interrelations of human and social evolution. Then follow discussions of the unifying influences in society, the continuity of these influences from generation to generation, and their change under normal and under abnormal conditions. The next chapters expand previous statements into detailed analyses of instinct and intelligence, imitation and suggestion, and sympathy in the social life. The author's success in combining different opinions is specially shown in his final chapters on the contributions of government, religion, morality, education, etc., to social order and on the varied

views of social progress and the nature of society. The book is sane and suggestive and gives a splendid skeleton to cover in class with flesh and blood.

W. H. HECK.

ELLWOOD, C. A. *Syllabus for an elementary course in sociology*. (Columbia, Mo.: Missouri Book Co. 1917. Pp. 26. 10c.)

Combines the author's *Sociology and Modern Social Problems* with his *Introduction to Social Psychology* as a basis for an elementary course.

HARVEY, J. and others. *Competition: A study in human motive*. (London: Macmillan. 1917. Pp. xiii, 232. 2s. 6d.)

HOBSON, J. A. *The evolution of modern capitalism. A study of a machine production*. New edition. (New York: Scribner. 1917. Pp. xvi, 488.)

SEAGER, H. R. *Principles of economics*. Second edition, revised and enlarged. (New York: Holt. 1917. Pp. xx, 662.)

Five hundred practical questions in economics. For use in secondary schools. (Boston: Heath. 1916. Pp. 59. 25c.)

This little volume is prepared by a committee of the New England History Teachers Association. Some of the problems have already been published elsewhere, by Professor Day and Dr. Davis of Harvard University in their pamphlets on *Questions on the Principles of Economics*. The committee which had this in charge was composed of Winthrop Tirrell, High School of Commerce, Boston; Edmund E. Day, Harvard University; Horace Kidger, Technical High School, Newton; Thomas H. H. Knight, Girls' High School, Boston; Margaret McGill, Classical High School, Newton; and Sara H. Stites, Simmons College.

Economic History and Geography

NEW BOOKS

BARRON, C. W. *The Mexican problem*. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 1917. Pp. xxv, 136. \$1.)

Contains a considerable amount of economic data; a special study of the oil resources in Mexico, and the experience of the Standard Oil Company. Author emphasizes the need of economic development.

BEER, G. L. *The English-speaking peoples, their future relations and joint international obligations*. (New York: Macmillan. 1917. Pp. xi, 322. \$1.50.)

The title indicates a breadth of treatment of present international problems far outside the economic sphere. Yet, as might be expected of the author, economic factors are never neglected, and a long chapter on "economic interdependence" is an admirable survey of the recent commercial relations of the great powers, with suggestive glimpses into the future.

C. D.